GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:670
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2016
Safety Norms for NPPs
Gawali (Patil) Ms. Bhavana

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether all Nuclear Power Plants (NPPs) in the country are set up as per the safety norms fixed by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and if so,the details thereof;

(b)whether indigenous uranium is being used in all these plants as fuel and if so, the details thereof; and

(c)the names of the countries from where uranium is being imported for these Nuclear Plants?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER''S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a)All nuclear power plants in India are set up in line with the safety norms laid down by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). AERB safety norms are generally in line with those of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

(b)No, Sir. There are currently twenty one (21) reactors with an installed capacity of 5780 MW. Of these, eight (8) reactors with aggregate capacity of 2400 MW are fuelled by indigenous uranium. The remaining thirteen (13) reactors with a capacity of 3380 MW are under IAEA Safeguards and use imported uranium. In addition, one unit (Kudankulam Unit-2) has also attained first criticality (start of controlled self-sustaining nuclear fission chain reaction in the Reactor for the first time) on July 10, 2016. This unit also uses imported fuel.

(c)Presently, the Uranium is being imported from the Russian Federation, Canada and the Republic of Kazakhstan. The details of the quantity of uranium imported so far and the anticipated supplies during the calendar year 2016 are furnished in the enclosed annexure.

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Annexure

Sr. No. Firm/Country Date of entering into Contract Total Quantity to be procured as per Contract
Total Quantity received till date Anticipated delivery in the year 2016 Remarks
1. M/s. AREVA, France 17.12.2008 300 MT of Natural Uranium Ore Concentrate. 299.88 MT Nil The Contract concluded with one-time supply of the material during the year 2009.
2. M/s. JSC TVEL Corporation, Russia 11.02.2009 2000 MT of Natural Uranium Oxide Pellets. 1813 MT 187 MT
The material is being procured through the Annual Supplements to the Contract. The Contract concludes with the import of 187 MT of Pellets.
11.02.2009 58 MT of Enriched Uranium Oxide Pellets. 58.30 MT Nil The Contract concluded with one-time supply of the material during the year 2009.
03.03.2015 42 MT of Enriched Uranium Oxide Pellets. 42.15 MT Nil The Contract concluded with one-time supply of the material during the year 2015.
3. M/s. Cameco, Canada 15.04.2015 The Contract permits procurement of a minimum of 2750 MT and maximum 5500 MT of Natural Uranium Ore Concentrate. 250.74 MT 1250 MT The material is to be procured during 2015−2020.
4. M/s. JSC NAC KazatomProm, Kazakhstan 12.11.2009 2100 MT of Natural Uranium Ore Concentrate. 2095.9 MT Nil The Contract concluded during the year 2014.
08.07.2015 The Contract permits procurement of a minimum of 3750 MT and maximum 7000 MT of Natural Uranium Ore Concentrate. 999.807 MT 1500 MT The material is to be procured during 2015−2019.

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